Co-funded by the European Union

ENGAGE

ENGAGE Project Newsletter

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

Project Development of inclusivE iNteGration pAths 4 miGrant women / ENGAGE aimes to increase TCN women's capability for entering the labour market and social life of the host society. TCN women, which are representing the 45% of refugees in the EU, have lower activity and employment rates, a higher risk of poverty and are more likely to be in lower skilled occupations. Most of them face particular integration challenges associated with lower education and labour market outcomes compared to refugee men. A main reason is that they are coming from countries with high gender inequality and low employment rates for women. Therefore, an effective integration process of these women in the new social environment, can contribute to their social and economic inclusion.

Learn more about the project on https://amif-engage.eu/

Co-funded by the European Union

ENGAGE

VOLUNTEERING AS AN INTEGRATION PATH

In European countries, volunteering is regarded as an important part of a career path and personal development, especially for young people. Regardless of your age, volunteering for social or humanitarian causes will give you opportunities to make new acquaintances, be recognized as a reliable worker, and will provide a valuable experience for your resume. It can also improve your networking circle and your initiative. If you're just starting out and you can afford it, volunteering can be a great way to gain valuable industry contacts. The relationships you create at volunteering may open other doors to paid jobs.

Co-funded by the European Union

ENGAGE

Most types of volunteer work fall into one of five major categories: environmental, animals, social, healthcare or sports and leisure. Typical examples of volunteering opportunities include:

- Volunteering with youth clubs, schools, or charities that support families
- coaching a youth sports team
- Soup kitchens, food pantries and homeless shelters are always looking for volunteers to help serve food and cook meals.
- Animal shelters are always looking for volunteers to help clean cages, feed animals, walk dogs, play with cats and conduct behavioural training
- You can volunteer at senior citizen events or a nursing home and paint nails, read books, bring baked goods, make birthday cards, and so much more

Especially if you have difficulty finding paid work or are not (yet) allowed to sign an employment contract, volunteering offers a wide range of advantages:

- Showing initiative and motivation to prospective employers
- Getting to know the culture of the arrival society

Co-funded by the European Union

- meeting new people who might also be able to help you in finding paid employment
- improving your social and language skills
- If you are volunteering at an institution which also has paid employees, you are likely to be considered for the next opening if you have the right qualifications

Depending on your residency country's laws, you might be able to receive a small compensation or benefits such as a discount on entry fees for cultural institutions for your voluntary work.

INTERCULTURAL FESTIVALS

On occasion of the International Migrants' Day on December 18th, several of the partner organizations hosted intercultural festivals where the interested public was invited to come together, learn more about the project and get to know the participants while listening to live music and enjoying some food and drinks.

The Italian partner Ce.F.A.S. for instance was supported by the ensemble *Coro a Coro* directed by Rachele Andrioli, an evolving polyphonic singing workshop for women which wants to foster the concept of gender and promote multiculturalism as well as

Cucine Migranti (migrants' kitchen) and the intercultural catering service *Cooperativa Griot Storie*.

ENGAGE

Co-funded by the European Union

Wishing everyone a great, successful and happy new year 2023:

Belgium, Diepenbeek

UCLL Research & Exprertise

Germany, Berlin

MetropolisNet EEIG

Slovenia, Ljubljana

Science and Research Center SAZU

Italy, Magliano

Ce.F.A.S

Austria, Trofaiach

Verein Interaktion

Germany, Oberhausen

kitev – Kultur im Turm e.V.

Greece, Larissa

DIMITRA Education & Consulting

Cyprus, Nicosia

Emphasys Centre

Spain, Albecete

Dramblys

Netherlands, Amsterdam

A'Dam Mob

Cyprus, Nicosia

Cy.R.C. Cyprus Refugee Council

Co-funded by the European Union

ENGAGE

Contact us:

Project coordinator: Sebastiaan Jans sebastiaan.jans@ucll.be

UC LIMBURG – CAMPUS DIEPENBEEK AGORALAAN GEBOUW B BUS, 3590 DIEPENBEEK, Belgium

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.